

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 6-11, 19, 21-28, 31, 34, 39-43, 46-47 have been amended. Claims 4-5, 16-18, 20, 36-38, 52-61, and 65 have been canceled without prejudice. New claims 66-72 are added. After entry of the present amendments, claims 1-3, 6-15, 19, 21-35, 39-51, 62-64, and 66-72 remain pending in this application for examination.

Statement of Substance of the Personal Interview Conducted on August 8, 2007

The Interview Summary recorded by the Examiner generally summarizes the substance of the personal interview conducted on August 8, 2007. No agreement was reached, though the Examiner indicated that the claim amendments to claim 10 would require a new search.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants submit herewith an Information Disclosure Statement along with the associated fee. The Examiner is kindly requested to review and consider the references cited in the attached PTO-1449 Form, and initial each reference prior to mailing the next office action.

Claim amendments

The independent claims have been amended. Claim 52 and its dependent claims have been canceled, and new claims 66-72 are added. As pointed out during the interview, the primary reference, Harkham, does not teach or suggest the audiovisual content including computer-generated image and animation data representing the random event as claimed. Live-action video feed of a card game does not correspond to computer-generated image and animation data representing a random event.

Cannon's tournament embodiments, col. 28, line 65 to col. 30, line 52, do not disclose, *inter alia*, a central server system offering a plurality of wagering games. The players may link their gaming machines together (col. 29, ll. 29-33), but there is no central server system in these tournament embodiments, for example, that authorizes a computing device remote from any land-based casino to access a wagering game offered by the central server system. Cannon's FIG. 5 embodiment, col. 19, l. 61 to col. 21, l. 52, describes a web server 124 on the gaming machine 70 but does not teach or suggest any integration of casino-based and non-casino-based gaming at a central server system. Finally, Cannon's FIG. 4D embodiment, col. 14, l. 1 to col. 15, l. 3, discloses a server 128 from which casino-based gaming statistics, col. 14, l. 10, or live-action video feeds, col. 14, ll. 31-39, can be retrieved. Gaming statistics and live-action video feeds do not correspond to computer-generated image and animation data representing a random event as claimed.

The claims as amended generally call for a first and second wagering games offered by a central server system, a first of which is played on a gaming machine in a land-based casino and a second is played on a computing device remote from any land-based casino. The second wagering game includes game software for generating a random event at the central server system. The random event for the first wagering game (played on the gaming machine) can be generated at the gaming machine or at the central server system. Aspects of the present invention allow for different configurations of gaming machines and non-gaming machines alike, which are linked by a reconfigurable computer network to a central server system that authorizes game play by the non-gaming machines that are linked to it. In some implementations, the central server can download game software and/or audiovisual content to a gaming machine but

download audiovisual content only to a computing device. In other implementations, basic and enhanced versions of a wagering game are offered by the central server, which versions can be conducted at the machine/device level or at the central server system. These aspects are not taught or suggested in the references applied, either alone or in combination with one another.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

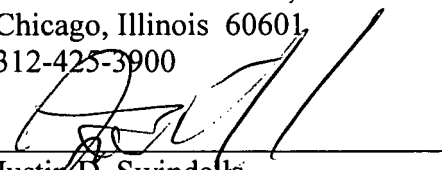
A Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time and associated fee are submitted herewith. An Information Disclosure Statement and associated fee are also submitted herewith. It is believed that no additional fees are presently due; however, should any additional fees be required (except for payment of the issue fee), the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Deposit Account No. 50-4181 (247079-184USPT) for any fees inadvertently omitted which may be necessary now or during the pendency of this application, except for the issue fee.

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Respectfully submitted,

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